

Biography of  
**T.L. "Sonny" Berry, Jr.**  
*Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army  
Emeritus*



**BUSINESS AFFILIATIONS:** Director, Merchants and Farmers Bank & Trust, Leesville, Louisiana; Former Director, City of Leesville, Office of Economic Development, Leesville, Louisiana; Former Director, Fifth Planning District Consortium, Leesville, Louisiana; Former President, Berry Realty Co. Inc.; Former President, West Gibson, Inc.; Former President, McRae-Berry Insurance Agency; Former Associate, Holiday Inn of Leesville, Inc.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT SERVICE:** Appointed Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for Louisiana, 1982; Member, Executive Committee, Governor's Military Advisory Commission, State of Louisiana; Former Chairman, Governor's Military Advisory Commission, State of Louisiana, 1990-1995.

**MILITARY SERVICE:** U.S. Army, 1950-52. Served with the 89th Medium Tank Battalion, 25th Division, January-September 1952, Korea. Member, Louisiana National Guard, April-October, 1950.

**AWARDS/DECORATIONS:** Awarded Bronze Star for Valor, Korea, 1952. Recipient of the Patrick Henry Award for the U.S. National Guard Association; the AUSA President's Medal; The Army's Outstanding Civilian Service Medal; the Army's Certificate of Appreciation for Patriotic Civilian Service; four awards of Army's Commanders Public Service Award; the Louisiana Distinguished Service Medal; two awards of the AUSA Distinguished Service Award 1995 and 1999.

**MEMBERSHIPS AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS:**

**MILITARY RELATED:** Member, Louisiana State Senate Select Committee for Military & Veteran Affairs; Member, Leonidas Polk Chapter, AUSA Board; Life Member, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3106; Member, American Legion; Member, Louisiana Societe Des 40/8-V-274 (American Legion); Current Member and Former Chairman, Military Affairs Committee, Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce; Former Member, National AUSA Advisory Board; Former President, AUSA, Fourth Region; Former President, National AUSA Council of Trustees; Former President, Leonidas Polk Chapter, AUSA, 1975-76 and 1981-84.

**CIVIC/PHILANTHROPIC:** Member, Northwestern State University-Leesville Advisory Committee; Member, City of Leesville Economic Development Committee; Former Member, Vernon Parish Economic Development Committee; Former President, Leesville Civitan Club; Former President, Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce, 1964-65 and 1974-75.

**DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:** August 3, 1932; DeRidder, Louisiana.

**ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT:** April 1, 1982

HQ, FIFTH U.S. ARMY  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
FT SAM HOUSTON, TX 78234-7000



PHONE: DSN 471-0015, COMM (210) 221-0015